Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A networking apparatus for providing fault tolerance to memory comprising:

a first memory including a plurality of entries to store data concerning a packet with ~~an~~ address information, wherein the data concerning the packet is stored in one of the entries according to the address information, and the first memory is a MAC address memory; and

a second memory to store a status of at least one of the entries, wherein the status indicates ~~that~~ whether or not the corresponding entry is defective.

Claim 2 (original): The networking apparatus in claim 1, wherein the data concerning the packet includes a host/port relationship.

Claim 3 (original): The networking apparatus in claim 1, wherein the address information includes a MAC ID of the packet.

Claim 4 (original): The networking apparatus in claim 3, wherein the address information includes a source ID (SID) of the packet.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The networking apparatus in claim 3, wherein the address information includes a destination ID ~~(SID)~~ (DID) of the packet.

Claim 6 (original): The networking apparatus in claim 3, wherein the relationship between the address information of the packet and the corresponding entry of the first memory is determined by a hashing scheme.

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (original): The networking apparatus in claim 1, wherein the second memory is at least a register.

Claim 9 (original): The networking apparatus in claim 1, wherein the networking apparatus further includes a third memory to store the data concerning the packet if the entry corresponding to the packet is defective.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The networking apparatus in claim 9 ~~claim 10~~, wherein the third memory is a content-addressable memory (CAM).

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The networking apparatus in claim 1 wherein the networking apparatus is a switch.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The networking apparatus in claim 1 wherein the networking apparatus is a router.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method for providing fault tolerance to memory in a networking apparatus comprising:

performing a built-in self test (BIST) on a first memory including a plurality of entries;

marking a second memory to indicate a status of at least one of the entries, wherein the status is for indicating whether the corresponding entry is defective;

finding an entry of the first memory according to ~~an~~ address information of a packet; ~~and~~

checking the second memory to determine whether the entry corresponding to the address information of the packet is defective or not; and

storing data concerning the packet in a third memory if the first memory is

defective.

Claim 14 (original):The method in claim 13 further comprising:

broadcasting the packet if the entry corresponding to the address information of the packet is defective.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method ~~networking apparatus~~ in claim 13, wherein the address information includes a MAC ID of the packet.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method ~~networking apparatus~~ in claim 15, wherein the address information includes a source ID (SID) of the packet.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method ~~networking apparatus~~ in claim 15, wherein the address information includes a destination ID ~~(SID)~~ (DID) of the packet.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method ~~networking apparatus~~ in claim 13, wherein the relationship between the address information of the packet and the corresponding entry of the first memory is determined by a hashing scheme.

Claim 19 (original):The method in claim 13 further comprising:

comparing the address information of the packet with a content of the corresponding entry of the first memory if the corresponding entry of the first memory is not defective;

forwarding the packet to a specific port according to the content of the corresponding entry of the first memory if the comparison yields a match; and

broadcasting the packet if the comparison does not yield a match.

Claim 20 (original): The method in claim 19 further comprising:

storing data concerning the packet into the corresponding entry of the first memory if the comparison does not yield a match.

Claim 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method in claim 13 ~~claim 21~~ further comprising:

comparing the data of the packet with a content of the corresponding entry of the first memory if the corresponding entry of the first memory is not defective;

comparing the data of the packet with a content of the third memory if the corresponding entry of the first memory is defective; and

forwarding the packet to a specific port according to at least one of the content of the corresponding entry of the first memory and the third memory if the comparison yields a match; ~~and~~

~~broadcasting the packet if the comparison does not yield a match~~.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The method in claim 22 ~~claim 24~~ further comprising:

storing the data of the packet into the third memory if the comparison does not yield a match.

Claim 24 (new): A networking apparatus for providing fault tolerance to memory comprising:

a first memory including a plurality of entries to store data concerning a packet with address information, wherein the data concerning the packet is stored in one of the entries according to the address information;

a second memory to store a status of at least one of the entries, wherein the status indicates whether or not the corresponding entry is defective; and

a third memory to store the data concerning the packet if the entry corresponding to

the packet is defective.